

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Applicant: Williamson, et al  
Serial No: 09/306,448  
Filed: 05/06/99  
Title: MEANS AND METHOD OF REPLACING A HEART...

DEC 22 2000  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: P. Prebilic  
Art Unit: 3738

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#3/2

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action dated 09/25/00, please  
amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1: line 3 change "currently pending" to --now abandoned  
--, and line 5, change "currently pending" to --now US Patent  
6,042,607--.

Please delete the second copies of pages 74 and 75.

Page 31, line 2, change "Figures 50A and 50B show" to --  
Figure 50 shows--

Page 67: lines 7, change "Figures 50A" to --Figure 50-- and  
line 8 change "and 50B which show" to --which shows--.

Please amend the drawings as indicated in red on the  
accompanying copies thereof.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3: line 1, change "tool" to --combination --; and

after "wherein each fastener" insert --of the tool--.

Claim 5: line 1, change "tool" to --combination--.

Claim 6: line 1, change "tool" to --combination--; and after

"the fastener" insert --of the tool--.